Abstract 89

Vegetable Seed Production Under Conventional and Organic Farming Systems

D.A. do A. Teles*, P.P. da Silva, W. M. Nascimento
Embrapa Hortaliças, Rodovia Brasília/Anápolis BR 060 km 09 Brasília - DF,
wmn@cnph.embrapa.br

Organic vegetable production has been increasing for the last few years in Brazil, and the organic cultivation system demands seeds obtained exclusively from organic sources. To establish an organic seed production program for some vegetables, some studies have been carried out in order to develop a strategy to allow the production of seeds with higher physiological and sanitary quality. In addition, there is a lack of information on vegetable seed production under organic system. This makes it difficult to grow them and consequently leads the availability of organic seeds. This work aimed to evaluate the yield and seed quality of lettuce, coriander, sweet pepper and snap bean, thus seeking information on the feasibility of seed production under organic system. Seeds of lettuce cv. Cubana, coriander cv. Palmeiras, sweet pepper cv. Tico and snap bean cv. Rasteiro Fartura were produced into the conventional and organic farming systems. The study was conducted at Embrapa Vegetables, Brasília, DF. The yield and seed quality were evaluated. Although the productivity of seeds has been, in some species, lower in organic systems, physiological (germination and vigor) seed quality was similar in both systems, showing a potential for seed production of these species in the organic system. However, seeds produced in the organic system showed a lower sanitary quality those produced in the conventional system.

Keywords – organic vegetable, seed production, physiological and sanitary quality